

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit 1775

Examiner:

PATENT

Applicants: Richard P. Welty et al

Serial No.

Filed:

Title COATED ARTICLE

*pre-amend
2/2
2/14/02
y*

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before examination please amend the above identified application as follows:

Insert the following after the title:

--This application is a continuation of U.S. Application
Serial No. 09/365,130 filed July 30, 1999.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-21.

Please amend the following claims:

22. [amended] An article having on at least a portion of its surface a coating [comprised] consisting essentially of, in order:

strike layer [comprised] consisting essentially of zirconium, titanium or zirconium-titanium alloy on said surface; and

layer [comprised] consisting essentially of zirconium compound, titanium compound or zirconium-titanium alloy compound on said strike layer.